

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 AMMAN 03070 010845Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
DHA-02 /058 W  
-----010913Z 018942 /21

R 010622Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1822  
DIA WASHDC  
USCINCEUR

CONFIDENTIAL AMMAN 3070

CINCEUR FOR ECJ-2-R

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MOPS JO  
SUBJECT: JORDANIAN MILITARY PRISON BREAK

REF: (A) DAO AMMAN 356, DTG 271400Z MAY 77, 6853 006977,  
(B) DAO AMMAN 357, DTG 281120Z MAY 77, 6853 007077

1. KING HUSSEIN MAY 28 GAVE ME SHORT REPORT  
FROM HIS PERSPECTIVE ON ZARQA MILITARY PRISON  
BREAK (REFTELS).  
  
2. HE CONCLUDED THAT TROOPS, MANY OF WHOM  
WERE IN FOR DISCIPLINARY OFFENSES REQUIRING  
SHORT SENTENCES, WERE FRUSTRATED AT THE LACK  
OF A GENERAL AMNESTY ON INDEPENDENCE DAY. AS  
A RESULT, THEY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF INADEQUATE SECURITY  
AT THE PRISON TO GET OUT.

3. KING WAS CONCERNED ABOUT SLOW PROGRESS IN  
ROUNDING THEM UP. HE SAID IF ANOTHER STATE  
INTRODUCED FOREIGN AGENTS INTO THE COUNTRY IN JORDANIAN  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 AMMAN 03070 010845Z

MILITARY UNIFORMS, ON THE BASIS OF THEIR PRISON BREAK  
PERFORMANCE, THE ARMY'S REACTION WAS WOEFULLY SLOW.  
HE SAID IN THIS ASPECT THE PRISON BREAK WAS A  
LESSON WHICH THE ARMY WOULD NOT FORGET.

4. THROUGH OTHER SOURCES, DAO HAS LEARNED  
THAT PRISONERS NOT YET RECAPTURED WERE DOWN TO

FOUR BY MAY 29. WE THOUGHT RECOVERY EFFORTS OF  
MILITARY WERE EXCELLENT, CONSIDERING THE EXTENDED  
FAMILY PROTECTIVE SYSTEM IN JORDAN. WE ARE  
SURPRISED THAT KING WAS NOT MORE CONCERNED  
WITH THE OVERLY HARSH MEASURES EMPLOYED BY THE  
MILITARY DURING THE ESCAPE AND ITS AFTERMATH.  
PICKERING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY PERSONNEL, PRISONERS RELEASE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 01-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977AMMAN03070  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770194-0777  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** AMMAN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t197706105/aaaadnhp.tel  
**Line Count:** 69  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f0099e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2007729  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JORDANIAN MILITARY PRISON BREAK  
**TAGS:** MOPS, PINS, JO  
**To:** STATE DIA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f0099e73-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009